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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of
Eugene A. Woltering *et al.*

Serial No. 09/866,296

Filing Date May 25, 2001

For: Three-Dimensional *Ex Vivo* Angiogenesis System

Group 1651

Examiner Afremova, Vera

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the election of species requirement dated March 1, 2002, Applicants elect Group I, Claims 1-13. This election is made without traverse, subject to the caveat described in the following paragraph.

The March 1, 2002 official action, page 2, listed Groups I, II, III, and II. Based on their subject matter, it is assumed that both Groups labeled as "II" were intended to form a single Group II. The Office is respectfully requested to clarify that Group II includes

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this Response to Election of Species Requirement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on June 3, 2002.

John H. Runnels
Registration No. 33,451

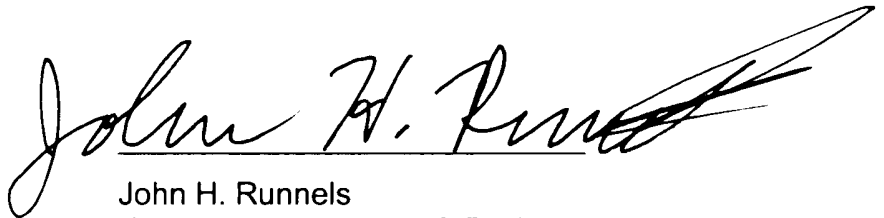
June 3, 2002

Claims 14-23, 25, and 27-37. Should the Office's clarification suggest that the two Groups labeled "II" were in fact intended to denote separate Groups, then applicant reserves the right to traverse the election of species following clarification.

It is believed that the present Response is being filed timely, as the March 1, 2002 Office Action set a three-month period for response, and this paper is being submitted with first-class mailing certificate on the first business day following the expiration of the three-month period on June 1, 2002. However, if any extension of time should be required, please consider this paper a petition for the total extension of time required.

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this paper. In the event that a fee is due, kindly refer to the general Deposit Account Authorization and Request for Automatic Extensions of Time previously filed with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John H. Runnels". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John H. Runnels
Taylor, Porter, Brooks & Phillips, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 2471
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
Registration No. 33,451
June 3, 2002